BRISBANE
THIS WEEK

105 Billions. Be Calm
103 Eyes for an Eye
The Unexpected Pleases
Fourth Place for Us

Secretary Ickes has a real plan, and possesses what might be called vision in spending. He has confidence in this country and its wealth. As chairman of the resources board, Mr. Ickes favors spending $105,000,000,000 in the next 20 or 30 years on public works.

Do not "stand and gaze," or fall backward; that isn't so much money for Uncle Sam. Mr. F. H. Ecker, whose Metropolitan Life Insurance company, biggest in the world, has assets of $4,000,000,000, will tell you that in really good times the United States' income was $90,000,000,000 a year, $60,000,000,000 for wages, $30,000,000,000 of other income.

"An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" may suit old-fashioned "capitalistic" countries. It does not appeal to Russia. There, to avenge the killing of one man, Kirov, Stalin's friend, 28 more have been killed, making a total of 103.

Two hundred and three eyes for one eye, and two and three teeth for one tooth, high price, and the number will be increased.

The unexpected is interesting and a source of humor. Two old gentlemen, failing in their attempt to find oil, retired to the poorhouse. On the poorhouse backyard they found, first, a good coal deposit, then struck oil.

Louis Mosenza of New Jersey went hunting deer, walked 20 miles, found nothing. At night he found a large deer hanging in his kitchen. It walked into the front yard, Mrs. Mosenza shot it.

Charles Dana Gibson, albio artist, with friends went moose hunting, traveled far, by buckboard in the Maine forest, found nothing, packed guns, drove back to the station. A fine bull and two cows walked across the road. They could not get out their guns.

An Italian liner leaving United States comes fourth and Germany's latest, the march toward recovery and is profitable. There was a time when fourth place did not particularly gratify Americans, but "small mercies thankfully received."

Interesting in the report is the statement that countries still on the gold basis—France, Italy, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland—show the least progress.

Catholics and Protestants in Germany unite in a pro-Deo ("for God") movement to counteract the "godless Bolshevik propaganda."

At the same time various religious authorities in Germany quarrel among themselves and the head government seeks to "Germanize" Christian religion, announcing steps by the idea that "the Good" should have been given to the world by the Jews.

Rumania's parliament discussed a young lady with red hair named Magda Lupescu, for whom the Rumanian king, Carol, has shown some partiality. It was suggested in defense of King Carol that this critics are too weak to

Low view of immorality would several well-known characters, including good St. Anthony, as not understood. But the answer said he could "resist anything except temptation" was a person of unusual strength.

Mr. Joseph J. Fiske observes that among the "one hundred and eighty-one who had incomes of a million dollars a year during the year," the Jews may be counted on the fingers of one hand." He thinks this interferes with Hitler's theory that members of the Jewish race control the world's money and own most of it.

That theory, of course, is nonsense. There is no Jew among the richest men in the United States, who are, or were until recently, John D. Rockefeller, Andrew W. Mellon, Henry Ford and George F. Baker.

Wise King George of England knows which way the straws are blowing. A friend wanted to give him, by subscription, a new yacht costing $150,000. He thanked them, said he could get along well with his old sailing boat, and advised that the $150000 "be applied to people out of work." That kind of king stays on his throne.

The marquess of Donegal tells the London Sunday Despatch that Chancellor Hitler, flying over east Prussia, was attacked with gunfire from another airplane, fled at high speed after missing.

Perhaps that did not happen, but it might happen.

United States cotton growers decide by a vote of 9 to 1 that they want an extension of the Bankhead act, limiting the production of cotton. Consequently, production will be kept down and prices forced up. So far so good. Another result will be that foreign countries will gratefully increase their cotton production, safe from competition of United States surplus cotton, and this country's cotton export trade will gradually fade away. Perhaps that is "all right." Cotton growers should know.

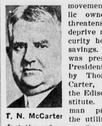
© King Features Syndicate, Inc.
WNU Service.

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Electric Utility Interests Get Cold Shoulder From the Administration—Vast Program Reported by National Resources Board.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
© by Western Newspaper Union.

ELECTRIC utility companies of the United States, worried by the power program of the New Deal, appealed to President Roosevelt to abandon the movement toward public ownership which threatens, they say, to deprive millions of security holders of their savings. The plea was presented to the President personally by Thomas N. McCarter, president of the Edison Electric Institute. That gentleman protested that the utilities would effect the reforms in financing that Mr. Roosevelt has called for, and then requested that the government join with the institute in a suit to test the constitutionality of the Tennessee Valley authority.


T. N. McCarter

In the memorial he handed to the President, Mr. McCarter gave it as his own opinion that the government in the TVA experiment is exceeding its constitutional powers and infringing the sovereign rights of the state. He cited the joint opinion of Newton D. Baker, Democrat, and James M. Beck, Republican, that TVA is unconstitutional and the "similar conclusion" of United States Judge W. I. Grubb in a recent decision.

Mr. Roosevelt turned the memorial over to Frank R. McNinch, chairman of the federal power commission, and he and his aids speedily prepared a sharp reply rejecting the proposal of co-operation in carrying the matter to the Supreme court.

"In all the history of the American people," it said, "no parallel to such a proposal can be found. . . . The oath is not for the government to halt, but for the industry to catch step and move forward along progressive lines."

The Edison Electric Institute, of course, continued "a legal right to promote litigation to test the act creating the Tennessee Valley Authority or any other statute, but it will make no substantial progress toward placing the industry on a sound and permanent basis until it cleans its own house, reduces excessive rates to consumers, and abuses which are responsible for the present condition."

Attacking McCarter's contention that rates are reasonable, Mr. McNinch said Chattanooga pay on an average 2 1-5 cents for a kilowatt hour, while Americans pay 5¼ cents. He said the Canadian figures cover public and private plants, the latter supplying "46 per cent of the consumers."

"It is the purpose of the administration," he set forth, "to narrow this excessive gap between what the consumer pays for electricity in this country and what Canada has proved it can be generated and sold for. This program does not involve either 'destructive competition or strangulation'."

DR. HUGH S. MAGILL, president of the American Federation of Utility Investors, entered the utility controversy with a bot attack on the federal trade commission, charging that it is throwing out a smoke screen to befog the public mind in its desire to win approval for the entry of the federal government into the electric light and power business through such efforts as the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The smoke screen, he declared, was the pronouncement of the commission to the effect that public utility companies had boosted pre-depression prices in a market in which investors afterward lost millions of dollars.

"The clamor for the government to enter private enterprise," said Doctor Magill, "enjoys the sponsorship first of the Communists who have no regard for private property, second of those influenced by socialistic propaganda to believe that the production of electric power under government ownership would be in the interest of public welfare, and lastly of the spoilsmen in politics who see the tremendous opportunities such a system would offer for added power and political spoils."

SENATORIAL investigators of munitions and the War department clashed when Clark of Missouri suggested, in a committee hearing, that the war mobilization plans of the department, long held secret, should be laid before congress in peace time to be debated at leisure. He held that, under the army's plan, the eight hills embodying the scheme to mobilize the nation's resources would be rushed to congress to "pass under whip and spur" without proper consideration.

War department witnesses replied that the war policies commission believed certain legislation might be held unconstitutional in peace time but legal in a war emergency.

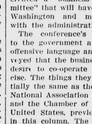
Senator Clark also sought to learn what degree of control was contemplated by the "censorship" plan of the army. This calls for an administrator of public relations who would mobilize "all existing mediums of publicity so that they may be converted to the best possible advantage." He also would be charged with co-ordinating publicity, combating disaffection at home and enemy propaganda, "establishing rules and regulations for censorship" and "enlisting and supervising a voluntary censorship of the newspaper and periodical press."

Lieutenant Colonel C. T. Harris of the army said he never heard of a plan to license the press, and Lieut. E. E. Brannan said nothing more than voluntary censorship was contemplated.

BUSINESS leaders of the country who met in conference at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., drew up a long list of things they want the government to do or not to do, and then created a "business conference committee" that will have headquarters in Washington and maintain "liaison" with the administration.

The conference's recommendations to the government are phrased in inoffensive language and the idea is conveyed that the business men earnestly desire to co-operate rather than criticise. The things they ask are substantially the same as those sought by the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, previously summarized in this column. The essence of it all is that government should attend more to its traditional functions and permit business to put men and capital back to work.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S national resources board, appointed last June to devise "a plan for planning," with Secretary of the Interior Ickes as its chairman, has submitted a long report offering a program, covering 20 to 30 years, for development of land, water and resources at an expenditure of $105,000,000,000. It surveys projects which presumably include the administration's relief and public works program.


Harold L. Ickes

Principal elements of the program are:

1. Improvement of highways and the elimination of grade crossings.
2. National housing, including slum clearance, subsistence homestead, rehabilitation, and low cost housing projects.
3. Water projects, including water supply, sewage treatment, flood control, irrigation, soil erosion prevention, and hydro-electric power developments.
4. Rural electrification.
5. Conservation of forests.

Secretary of the board, has said that if its recommendations are carried out, all unemployment will be eliminated for the next 25 years. These, she says, are the results that might be expected:

1. Provide a much greater development of water resources.
2. Stop menace of floods.
3. Stop soil erosion.
4. Remove all marginal or submarginal lands from attempted production.
5. Stop waste of mineral resources and substitute a national policy of conservation.
6. Create great new recreational acres.
7. Assemble basic data for mapping, public finance and population, necessary for national planning, with a middle-distant program.
8. Co-ordinate socially-useful federal, state and municipal public works.
9. Provide for continuous long range planning of land, water and mineral resources "in relation to each other and to the larger background of the social and economic life in which they are set."

ARMY and navy officers are concerned by the attempts of Communists to spread dissatisfaction, mutiny and rebellion among the armed forces of the nation, and have asked the house committee on un-American activities to sponsor a law permitting punishment of those who urge any soldier or sailor to violate his oath of allegiance.

Commander V. L. Kirkman of the navy told the committee that the Communists' campaign was planned and supervised from headquarters in New York city, and he submitted a number of pamphlets and leaflets distributed in the navy which, he said, "actually incite to mutiny, sabotage and assassination." He described how the Communist work is carried on, good looking girls taking an active part.

IT MAY be the war in the Gran Chaco it must be fought to a finish, for Paraguay has rejected the peace plan of the League of Nations which had been provisionally accepted by Bolivia. The Paraguayans, at present victorious in the jungle contest, said in their note to the league that certain conditions would make it impossible to discuss urgent matters like the return of Bolivian prisoners, "which by number and quality constitute an army very superior to that which Bolivia now has in the Chaco."

CARRYING on its anti-crime campaign, the Department of Justice caused the indictment and jailing of two attorneys on charges of complicity in the kidnaping of C. F. Urschel, Oklahoma oil magnate, in 1933. The two men represented the defendants in the kidnap trial. They are James C. Mathers of Oklahoma and Ben Laska, veteran member of the Denver bar. The men are charged specifically with handling part of the $200,000 ransom loot that went to Albert Bates, one of the actual kidnapers, who is now serving a life term at Alcatraz island prison.

Both the lawyers were released on bail, and Laska replied informally to the accusations by offering $50,000 reward to anyone who can prove that he passed any of the Urschel ransom money.

FINAL estimates of this year's crops, just released by the Department of Agriculture, show that agricultural wealth, based on farm prices December 1 of the five leading grain crops, exceeded that of last year by $314,000,000, despite the fact that total production of these crops was 1,248,000,000 bushels less than in 1933 and the smallest in 40 years.

Estimates for production of wheat, corn, oats, rye and barley total 2,541,000,000 bushels, compared with 3,789,000,000 bushels ast year, and the five-year average (1927-31) of 4,000,000,000 bushels. Aggregate farm value of these crops is given as $1,894,778,000 as compared with $1,590,888,000 in 1933.

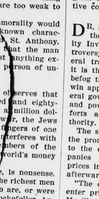
The extensive destruction of crops last summer by the heat and drouth is forcibly illustrated by the fact that total production of the leading grains this year was 250,000,000 bushels smaller than the corn crop alone in 1932.

WOUNDED lynchers of a negro fought desperately in Shelbyville, Tenn., and two members of the mob were killed and others wounded by bayonets and bullets. The infuriated crowd, described by a deputy sheriff as "crazy drunk," dynamited and burned the courthouse when it was learned that the negro had been disguised in militia uniform and gas mask and spirited out of town.

IF ANY doubt existed that Japan would denounce the Washington naval treaty, it was dissipated by the statement of E. H. Harriman and inheritor of some of his millions and an active part in promoting the New Deal and was made head of the National consumers' board of the NRA.

Two men of note who died were Eugene R. Black, former governor of the federal reserve board, and Marvin W. Mclntyre, New York lawyer, who appeared in many sensational cases and for a time served as congressman.

SECRETARY OF WAR DERN is no stranger to the necessity of strengthening the national defense. Secretary of the Navy Swanson in the course of our naval defenses. In the first section of his annual report Mr. Dern said that the officer and enlisted strength of the army be increased to 14,000 commissioned officers and 165,000 enlisted men. Other recommendations include:


Secretary Dern

Purchase of 600 airplanes over a period of three years to give the air corps 2,320 serviceable planes, as urged by the Baker board headed by Newton D. Baker, which investigated the air corps and its needs.

Allocation of sufficient funds to complete the army housing program at home and abroad.

Construction without undue delay of a War department building to house all its activities in one roof instead of in 17 buildings, as at present.

Enactment by congress of legislation to reform the promotion system, so as to give a more uniform and satisfactory flow of promotion without necessitating heavy additional expense.

Increasing the pay of officers, particularly in the lower grades, when the condition of the treasury warrants.

Mr. Dern praised highly the efficiency and morale of the regular army, the National Guard and the organized reserves, and described the work of the air corps in its brief operation of the air mail service last winter.

MRS. MARY HARRIMAN RUMSEY, who died brilliantly but not altogether successfully to protect the interests of the consumers against the machinations of industry and labor, is dead in Washington. Always interested in sociology and public affairs, this daughter of E. H. Harriman and inheritor of some of his millions took an active part in promoting the New Deal and was made head of the National consumers' board of the NRA.

Two men of note who died were Eugene R. Black, former governor of the federal reserve board, and Marvin W. Mclntyre, New York lawyer, who appeared in many sensational cases and for a time served as congressman.

SEEN and HEARD around the National Capital
By CARTER [illegible]

Washington.—Gen. Hugh Johnson's selection by President Roosevelt to play a part in organizing the country so that it will be ready for any contingency, should a war break out, is almost happy one, for many reasons.

In the first place Johnson, associated with Bernard M. Baruch worked for almost ten years on every idea. He did it at Baruch's direction. Baruch was much impressed during the World war, with the chaos which resulted from this country's having been precipitated into that conflict. And this despite the fact that it had been at least a possibility for considerably more than two years that this country would be involved. Absence of any intelligent plan for obtaining the necessary raw materials, for example. Absence of any sane co-ordination of the railroads—a lack which led to the government's taking them over, and wasting probably hundreds of millions of dollars.

And then the big problem of unequal distribution—soldiers getting $30 a month, having their families and machine workers getting $10 a day. The waste in building ships, especially wooden ships. The horrible memory of Hog Island.

So Baruch thought the things that would be to have a comprehensive plan, including every man and every bit of property in the country, so that at the outbreak of war the whole thing could be organized with that same efficiency that should characterize the mobilization of a European army, and at the same time as near a basis of equality between the citizens as possible, no matter what their particular niche in the scheme might be.

Having worked and thought for ten years on this subject, conferring with all the experts and best thinkers they could get hold of, Baruch and Johnson were obviously the two outstanding men in the entire country for this task.

Fond of Johnson

But there was another reason for Johnson's selection, which was highly important. The President is very fond of the explosive general, and would like to employ to the great talents in the government. The question was, where could he be placed where he would have the greatest chance of getting along peacefully with those with whom he would have to work!

The gradual turning of a close friendship between Donald Richberg and Johnson in NRA—the repeated battles between Johnson and Frances Perkins, secretary of labor, the enmities aroused by Miss Perkins' lieutenant, Johnson's lieutenant, all made it difficult.

But one point stood out like a lighthouse. Johnson had demonstrated over a period of years that he could and would work like a slave when his work was directed by Baruch. So why not put him to work at something he very much needed to be done—technically with Baruch, but actually under him.

Which is precisely what the President has done.

Incidentally, seldom has a big piece of news been more distorted than announcement of this project. That very afternoon senators on the Nye committee, with the ceiling in public statements, thinking the move was intended to choke off their investigation.

Actually there is nothing in the present administration more which relates even remotely to the idea of American munitions makers selling to foreign countries while this committee exists. Its only purpose is to have a definite and all embracing plan, which can be snapped into action the moment the country gets into a war.

But the words "take the profit out of war" seemed so timely that it is little wonder the headline writers jumped at them, especially as the sentence containing them was the only one in which a direct quote from the President were permitted. Even that resulted from a specific request by a newspaper man. It was not the President's original idea.

Involves Knotty Problems

Further march of the power of the federal government against the authority of the states is seen in the determination of Secretary of War Dern, spurred on by Senator Lonergan of Connecticut, to give the federal government control over industrial waste disposals in streams, lakes and coastal waters.

Legislation providing for this will be introduced in both houses early in the session, and will, it is learned, be vigorously pressed despite the very knotty constitutional problems involved.

The new bill, an effort to end stream pollution, is to be shaped by a committee headed by Secretary Dern and composed of other government and state conservation officials. It will also include some sportsmen. It is expected to call for granting authority to some existing government department or agency, though it may provide for the setting up of a new agency for the purpose. It is given the assignment will be granted power to enforce the provisions of the law.

No matter how the law is drafted, or what section of the Constitution is relied on to give the federal government power to go into a field which had always been supposed to belong to the states, a quick test will be made by opponents of the proposal, which will

It aims at stationary effect taxes, and at plishing the orig[illegible] earned increment
The chief objection tax, as viewed not [illegible] by the treasury minded administra business men, is the [illegible] available, none there is—that owned tired from active bus put into channels w duce employment, pa ing.
The retired capit ways a man who h ness, sells his estate, and to it after his death estate taxes, and he instances of wealth estate was sa ter prices in [illegible] ing sounds.
The streams ceased to slides ceased slipping, the raised rolling and the waterfall from a thundering to a hollow roar from that to a softening splash.
Jim imagined he saw dim out in a void that seemed to be packs under the edge of and left the horses free t of themselves.
He dreaded the coming night—he—he knew not w
Jim removed his slicker it into a long pad. As he the girl stirred again and thought she asked if he He placed the slicker in the able place and covered th drier of the two saddle bl pulled the saddle closer, lifted the girl over his lap her with the dry blanket. back against the stone wi on his shoulder and his a ing her. It was not only th ed to keep her dry and wa to have her in his arms waited for the nameless anticipated.
This was the climax of that had been gathering for upon the level desert it been serious for travelers; gorge it was a masterpie not expect to live to hear it Yet he did. And then began math of a flood let loose unstable earth. The wate ually rose to a thundering crash. It dominated for a the thousand streams fr poured over the rims to d completely deafen Jim.
A sheet of water, sliding rock, hid the opaque black Jim's eyes. Any moment pd would rise over the bank, sit did Jim meant to climb th the girl, to front the hors and sliping sides, and fine bitter end.
But many changes as rs brought, that flood did not the bank. Jim saw the star fall and the black sparce again. He heard [illegible] the [illegible] and the great single bowse down, and the furious backfle torrent below, and the lesser of the waterfall.
The scene came to Jim be dreamed, when all sounded lessened, faded away, exce cular thundering of the [illegible] And he got to listening for nd, which occurred only occasi for a while the sliding rush of ter swept on, suddenly to onto a furious splashing.
At length Jim calculated s strong current laden with which at times caused billows to lash their twisting tips upon themselves. Long he hdese slowly diminishing, gradual ing sounds.
The streams ceased to slides ceased slipping, the raised rolling and the waterfall from a thundering to a hollow roar from that to a softening splash.
Jim imagined he saw dim out in a void that seemed to be packs under the edge of and left the horses free t of themselves.
He dreaded the coming night—he—he knew not w
Jim removed his slicker it into a long pad. As he the girl stirred again and thought she asked if he He placed the slicker in the able place and covered th drier of the two saddle bl pulled the saddle closer, lifted the girl over his lap her with the dry blanket. back against the stone wi on his shoulder and his a ing her. It was not only th ed to keep her dry and wa to have her in his arms waited for the nameless anticipated.
This was the climax of that had been gathering for upon the level desert it been serious for travelers; gorge it was a masterpie not expect to live to hear it Yet he did. And then began math of a flood let loose unstable earth. The wate ually rose to a thundering crash. It dominated for a the thousand streams fr poured over the rims to d completely deafen Jim.
A sheet of water, sliding rock, hid the opaque black Jim's eyes. Any moment pd would rise over the bank, sit did Jim meant to climb th the girl, to front the hors and sliping sides, and fine bitter end.
But many changes as rs brought, that flood did not the bank. Jim saw the star fall and the black sparce again. He heard [illegible] the [illegible] and the great single bowse down, and the furious backfle torrent below, and the lesser of the waterfall.
The scene came to Jim be dreamed, when all sounded lessened, faded away, exce cular thundering of the [illegible] And he got to listening for nd, which occurred only occasi for a while the sliding rush of ter swept on, suddenly to onto a furious splashing.
At length Jim calculated s strong current laden with which at times caused billows to lash their twisting tips upon themselves. Long he hdese slowly diminishing, gradual ing sounds.

ROBBE ROOS
by Zane Gre

Copyright.—WNU Service.

CHAPTER XII—C —18—

The Instinct of the guided them to halt behi safe spot on the unsafe removed their packs, leav dles on. Without hesitatio out all of the grain, about for each horse. Lastly he packs under the edge of and left the horses free t of themselves.
He dreaded the coming night—he—he knew not w
Jim removed his slicker it into a long pad. As he the girl stirred again and thought she asked if he He placed the slicker in the able place and covered th drier of the two saddle bl pulled the saddle closer, lifted the girl over his lap her with the dry blanket. back against the stone wi on his shoulder and his a ing her. It was not only th ed to keep her dry and wa to have her in his arms waited for the nameless anticipated.
This was the climax of that had been gathering for upon the level desert it been serious for travelers; gorge it was a masterpie not expect to live to hear it Yet he did. And then began math of a flood let loose unstable earth. The wate ually rose to a thundering crash. It dominated for a the thousand streams fr poured over the rims to d completely deafen Jim.
A sheet of water, sliding rock, hid the opaque black Jim's eyes. Any moment pd would rise over the bank, sit did Jim meant to climb th the girl, to front the hors and sliping sides, and fine bitter end.
But many changes as rs brought, that flood did not the bank. Jim saw the star fall and the black sparce again. He heard [illegible] the [illegible] and the great single bowse down, and the furious backfle torrent below, and the lesser of the waterfall.
The scene came to Jim be dreamed, when all sounded lessened, faded away, exce cular thundering of the [illegible] And he got to listening for nd, which occurred only occasi for a while the sliding rush of ter swept on, suddenly to onto a furious splashing.
At length Jim calculated s strong current laden with which at times caused billows to lash their twisting tips upon themselves. Long he hdese slowly diminishing, gradual ing sounds.
The streams ceased to slides ceased slipping, the raised rolling and the waterfall from a thundering to a hollow roar from that to a softening splash.
Jim imagined he saw dim out in a void that seemed to be